

NetChoice *Promoting Convenience, Choice, and Commerce on The Net*

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Representative Robert Cornejo, Chair
Chairman of the House General Laws Committee
Missouri House of Representatives
201 West Capitol Avenue
Jefferson City Missouri 65101

February 6, 2017

RE: **Support for HB 608 - Regarding Regulation Related To Short-Term Rental Use**

Dear Chairman Cornejo and members of the House General Laws Committee,

We that you support HB 608 as it will provide economic flexibility to the residents of Missouri.

Based on existing Arizona law, HB 608:

- Protects Missouri residents' property rights,
- Creates mechanisms for easy tax collection and remittance, and
- Preserves localities' enforcement powers.

Short-term rental services provide necessary income to several of your constituents. Over 52 percent of hosts nationwide live in low-to-moderate income households. More than 48 percent of the income hosts earn through certain short-term rental services is used to cover household expenses.

Consider, for example, the resident who does not want to stay in St. Louis for the Great Forest Park Balloon Race. Short-term rental services allow these residents to getaway by sharing their homes and using that revenue for a trip out of town.

Adoption of HB 608 ensures your residents to enjoy the benefits of short-term rental services.

Protecting property rights

HB 608 clarifies the rights of Missouri home owners to use their property for short-term rentals. We've seen how a similar clarification in Arizona allowed the short-term rental market to flourish, improved tax collection and protected communities.

Simplifying Tax Collection

HB 608 creates reasonable and simple processes for tax collection and remittance. This means more tax revenue for the city and less oversight of short-term rental activity.

We ask that you ensure your constituents' the right to earn extra money by sharing their homes.

We know that through HB 608 we can enable home sharing regulations to the benefit of all. We welcome the opportunity to work with you on reasonable regulations that allow all to prosper.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carl Szabo".

Carl Szabo

Senior Policy Counsel, NetChoice

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